

CLAIMS

1. A method for operating a system comprising a central service facility connected to a remotely located diagnostic system via a network, comprising the steps of:

5 selecting a training video via an input to said diagnostic system; and

10 sending a training video request from said diagnostic system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

15 retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library following receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

20 sending said video and audio data of said selected training video from said central service facility to said diagnostic system via said network.

3. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of displaying said video data and playing said audio data at said diagnostic system.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

25 in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility, verifying whether said diagnostic system has a valid subscription; and

declining to retrieve video and audio data of said selected training video from a video library if said diagnostic system does not have a valid subscription.

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5. A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located diagnostic systems via a network, wherein each of said diagnostic systems comprises a graphical user interface for selecting a training video and then sending a training video request from said diagnostic system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

6. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said diagnostic system.

7. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said central service facility further comprises a memory for storing said video database, said video database memory being accessed by said video server to perform said retrieving step.

8. The system as recited in claim 6, wherein said diagnostic system comprises a display screen, an audio speaker and a video/audio player for displaying said video data on said display screen and outputting said audio data to said audio speaker.

9. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein said central service facility comprises:

a license server programmed to verify whether said diagnostic system has a valid subscription in response to

receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

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5 an application server coupled to said license server and programmed to decline said training video request if said license server communicates that said diagnostic system does not have a valid subscription.

10 10. The system as recited in claim 5, wherein each of said diagnostic systems further comprises a web server programmed to provide said graphical user interface and a web browser for displaying a web page of said graphical user interface, said web page identifying a training video.

15 11. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein said graphical user interface further comprises first virtual means on said web page for selecting said training video and second virtual means on said web page for actuating transmission to said network of a training video request identifying a training video selected via said first virtual means.

20 12. A medical diagnostic system comprising:

means for connecting to a network; and

25 a graphical user interface for selecting a training video and then sending a training video request from said diagnostic system to said central service facility via said network, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video.

30 13. The medical diagnostic system as recited in claim 12, further comprising a display screen, an audio speaker and a video/audio player for displaying said video data on said display screen and outputting said audio data to said audio speaker.

14. The medical diagnostic system as recited in claim 12, further comprising a web server programmed to provide said graphical user interface and a web browser for displaying a web page of said graphical user interface, said web page identifying a training video.

15. The medical diagnostic system as recited in claim 14, wherein said graphical user interface further comprises first virtual means on said web page for selecting said training video and second virtual means on said web page for actuating transmission to said network of a training video request identifying said training video selected via said first virtual means.

16. A central service facility comprising: ✓

means for connecting to a network; and ✓

a processing system programmed to communicate with and provide service to a multiplicity of diagnostic systems connected to said network, ✓

wherein said processing system comprises a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt at said network connecting means of a training video request from one of said diagnostic systems; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network connecting means addressed to said one diagnostic system.

17. The central service facility as recited in claim 16, further comprising a memory for storing said video database, said video database memory being accessed by said video server to perform said retrieving step.

18. The central service facility as recited in claim 16, further comprising:

a license server programmed to verify whether said one diagnostic system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said network connecting means; and

an application server coupled to said license server and programmed to decline said training video request if said license server communicates that said one diagnostic system does not have a valid subscription.

19. A system comprising a central service facility connected to a multiplicity of remotely located diagnostic systems via a network, wherein each of said diagnostic systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video; and

a communications module for sending said training video request from said diagnostic system to said central service facility via said network.

20. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving said requested training video from a video database; and

a communications module for sending said training video from said central service facility to said diagnostic system via said network.

21. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said central service facility comprises:

means for retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from a video database following receipt of said training video request; and

5 means for sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said diagnostic system.

22. The system as recited in claim 20, wherein said central service facility further comprises:

10 means for verifying whether said diagnostic system has a valid subscription in response to receipt of said training video request at said central service facility; and

15 means for declining said training video request if said license server communicates that said diagnostic system does not have a valid subscription.

23. A system comprising a video library accessible to a multiplicity of remotely located diagnostic systems via a network, wherein each of said diagnostic systems comprises:

means for selecting a training video;

20 means for formulating a request to view said training video, said training video request comprising an identifier identifying said selected training video; and

25 a communications module for sending said training video request from said diagnostic system to said video library via said network.

24. The system as recited in claim 23, wherein said video library comprises a video database and a video server which is programmed to perform the following steps:

30 retrieving video and audio data of said selected training video from said video database following receipt

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of said training video request; and

sending said video and audio data of said selected training video to said network addressed to said diagnostic system.

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